

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 17723 231607Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 OMB-01 ACDA-07 SSM-03 /088 W
-----240232Z 107882 /73

R 231535Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9990
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMCONSUL PORT SAID UNN
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION SINAI

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR EG SY IS XF
SUBJECT: AFTERMATH OF ASAD VISIT: MORE EGYPTIAN-SYRIAN MANEUVERING
ON PEACE FRONT

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 17723 231607Z

1. NOT UNEXPECTEDLY, CAIRO PRESS FULL OF GLOWING REPORTS OF APPROVAL
OF SYRIAN-EGYPTIAN "UNIONIST" MOVEMENT FROM VARIETY OF ARAB STATES
INCLUDING JORDAN, AND PLO VIA ARAFAT. LIBYA, ALGERIA AND IRAQ HAVE
YET, ACCORDING TO LOCAL PRESS, TO DECLARE THEMSELVES ONE WAY OR THE
OTHER. WASHINGTON "POLITICAL CIRCLES" (USG) SAID TO BE VIEWING

UNIFIED POLITICAL COMMAND AS STEP FORWARD ON ROAD TO ME SOLUTION.

2. AL AHAM ANNOUNCED DECEMBER 23 THAT EGYPTIANS AND SYRIANS ABOUT TO UNDERTAKE WORLDWIDE DIPLOMATIC DRIVE TO BRING ALL PARTIES TO GENEVA CONFERENCE NOT LATER THAN END OF MARCH. IN THIS CONNECTION, PAPER REPORTS, BOTH COUNTRIES WILL ALSO FURNISH THEIR EMBASSIES WITH COPY OF DOCUMENTS PUBLISHED DECEMBER 21 AND BACKGROUND FOR EXPLANATION OF JOINT VIEWS ON SETTLEMENT POSSIBILITY IN ALL CAPITALS.

3. IN ADDITION TO STATEMENT IN DECEMBER 21 COMMUNIQUE WHICH URGED WALDHEIM TO ELICIT FROM US AND USSR "THEIR VISUALIZATION AND LINE OF ACTION" FOR PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST, AL AHAM SAYS THAT FAHMY WILL MEET WITH US AND SOVIET AMBASSADORS DECEMBER 25 TO ASK THAT RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS SUBMIT THEIR VIEWS ON MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT PROCESS.

4. COMMENT: THERE IS CLEARLY INCREASED SENSE OF URGENCY IN GOE-SARG MANEUVERINGS ON PEACE FRONT. FOR EGYPTIANS, MOTIVATION IS AT LEAST PARTLY TRACEABLE TO FORTHCOMING ISRAELI ELECTIONS WHICH ARE NOT ONLY LIKELY TO CAUSE FURTHER DELAY IN CONVENING OF GENEVA MEPC, BUT HAVE ADDED A NEW MAJOR ELEMENT OF UNCERTAINTY INTO PEACE PROCESS.

EILTS

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Message Attributes

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